

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 421

By Gresham

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Robert Wesley Wilson of Whiteville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Robert Wesley Wilson; and

WHEREAS, Robert Wilson was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, a native of Fayette County, Mr. Wilson was born on May 1, 1927, to John Wesley Wilson and Verna Edna Davis Wilson; he lived for more than eighty years in the Newcastle area of Hardeman County; and

WHEREAS, Robert Wilson served his country in the United States Army Air Force as a member of the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Infantry; and

WHEREAS, a visionary entrepreneur, he worked with his father at Wilson Well Company from its founding in 1946, and he began running the business in 1958; and

WHEREAS, Robert Wilson was an active member of the Tennessee Water Well Association and had served as state president; he was also a member of the Licensing Board of Directors for Water Well Contractors; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Wilson was the founder of the Fayette County Fire Department and set up the fire station in District 15; at the time of his death, he was a lieutenant with the department and the oldest active first responder in the State; and

WHEREAS, an avid aviator, he was a first lieutenant with the Civil Air Patrol based in Bolivar; he held his private pilot license and instilled a love of flying into many members of his family; and

WHEREAS, Robert Wilson was an active and devout member of Grand Junction First United Methodist Church, which he served faithfully for many years on many church committees; and

WHEREAS, he was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Robert Wilson enjoyed the loving companionship of Nelda Jean Wynn Wilson, his wife of sixty-four years, and was the proud father of Teresa Brockwell, Jenny Evans, Kristi Anderson, and Rodney D. Wilson; and

WHEREAS, he was the treasured grandfather of Lauren Trousdale, Amy Bartlett, Julie Adams, Andrew Wilson, Callie Wilson, Alexander Wilson, Heather Stamps, Melissa Evans, Whitney Anderson, Rachel Anderson, Steven Anderson, and Ashlin Anderson and the doting great-grandfather of Joel Trousdale, Hannah Trousdale, Hayes Adams, and Briley Adams; he is lovingly remembered by his brother, Jerry Wilson; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Wilson was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Maxine Crawford; and

WHEREAS, Robert Wilson leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Robert Wesley Wilson, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Robert Wesley Wilson.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.